FINAL
DECISION DOCUMENT FOR
PORTIONS OF IRON MOUNTAIN ROAD RANGES ON
ALDOT EASTERN BYPASS CORRIDOR PROPERTY
FORT McCLELLAN, CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA

ISSUED BY: THE U. S. ARMY

JUNE 2006

U.S. ARMY ANNOUNCES DECISION DOCUMENT

This Decision Document presents the determination that the U.S. Army will implement land use controls (LUC) for portions of the Iron Mountain Road (IMR) Ranges at the former Fort McClellan (FTMC) located in Calhoun County, Alabama. This Decision Document only addresses an approximately 4-acre area of the IMR Ranges that lie within the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) proposed Anniston Eastern Bypass Corridor (EBC), a tract of land reserved for construction of a public highway. The LUCs are required to ensure there is no residential use or development on the portions of the IMR Ranges within the ALDOT EBC.

In addition, this Decision Document provides the site background information used as the basis for the decision to implement LUCs. The location of the IMR Ranges in relation to the ALDOT EBC is shown on Figure 1.

This Decision Document is issued by the U.S. Army Transition Force at the former FTMC with involvement by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT). The BCT consists of representatives from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 4, and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The BCT is responsible for planning and implementing environmental investigations at FTMC.

This Decision Document summarizes site information presented in detail in background documents that are part of the administrative record for the IMR Ranges. The background documents for the IMR Ranges are listed on Page 2 and are available at the public repositories listed on Page 3.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING SITE

The former FTMC is undergoing closure by the BRAC Commission under Public Laws 100-526 and 101-510. The 1990 Base Closure Act, Public Law 101-510, established the process by which U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) installations would be closed or realigned. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program requires investigation and cleanup of federal properties prior to transfer to the public domain. In addition, the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (CERFA), Public Law 102-426, requires federal agencies to identify real property on military installations scheduled for closure that can be transferred to the public for redevelopment or reuse. Consequently, the U.S. Army is conducting environmental studies of the impact of suspected contaminants at parcels at FTMC. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program follows the Comprehensive Environmental Restoration, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process.

SITE BACKGROUND

The former FTMC is located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains of northeastern Alabama near the cities of Anniston and Weaver in Calhoun County. FTMC consisted of three main areas: Main Post, Pelham Range, and Choccolocco Corridor, a 4,488-acre tract of land that was leased from the State of Alabama until May 1998. The Main Post, which occupied 18,929 acres, was bounded on the east by the Choccolocco Corridor, which previously connected the Main Post with the Talladega National Forest. Pelham Range, which

PRIMARY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR THE IMR RANGES

EDAW, Inc., 1997, ***Fort McClellan Comprehensive Reuse Plan, Fort McClellan Reuse and Redevelopment Authority of Alabama***, November; Fort McClellan, Updated Reuse Map, Rev. March 2000.

Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. (ESE), 1998, ***Final Environmental Baseline Survey, Fort McClellan, Alabama***, prepared for U.S. Army Environmental Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, January.

IT Corporation, 2000, ***Final Human Health and Ecological Screening Values and PAH Background Summary Report, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama***, July.

Science Applications International Corporation, 1998, ***Final Background Metals Survey Report, Fort McClellan, Alabama,*** July.

Shaw Environmental, Inc. (Shaw), 2004, ***Draft Remedial Investigation Report, Iron Mountain Road Ranges, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama***, April.

Shaw Environmental, Inc. (Shaw), 2005, ***Sample Results for Former AST at Range 13, Parcel 176(7)***, letter report, August.

Shaw Environmental, Inc. (Shaw), 2006, ***Final Removal Action Report, Iron Mountain Road Ranges Soil Remediation on ALDOT Eastern Bypass Corridor Property, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama***, March.

occupies 22,245 acres, is located approximately 5 miles due west of the Main Post and adjoins the Anniston Army Depot on the southwest.

The IMR Ranges are a series of former weapons firing ranges and a former aboveground storage tank (AST) located along Iron Mountain Road in the western-central portion of the FTMC Main Post (Figure 1). The IMR Ranges consist of the following parcels:

- Skeet Range, Parcel 69Q
- Range 12, Parcel 70Q
- Range 13, Parcel 71Q
- Range 19, Parcel 75Q
- Former Rifle Grenade Range North of Washington Ranges, Parcel 221Q-X
- Former Rifle Grenade Range at Skeet Range, Parcel 222Q-X
- AST at Range 13, Parcel 176(7).

As shown on Figure 1, only portions of the Skeet Range, Range 12, and Range 13 (including most of the former AST location, Parcel 176[7]) lie within the ALDOT EBC right-of-way. The total area of the IMR Ranges extending into the EBC is approximately 4 acres.

The Skeet Range, Range 12, and Range 13 were all small-arms training ranges. Weapons fired at these ranges included various gauge shotguns and various caliber pistols, rifles, and machine guns (ESE, 1998). The direction of fire was to the east and southeast into targets located at the base of Sunset and Baltzell Hills, which form the primary range boundaries.

The AST at Range 13, Parcel 176(7), was a 500-gallon tank that supplied No. 2 fuel oil for heating the range office at Range 13 (ESE, 1998). The AST, which was noted to be leaking during an audit conducted prior to Base closure, has since been removed.

SCOPE AND ROLE OF PARCEL

Information developed from the *Environmental Baseline Survey* (EBS) was used to group areas at FTMC into standardized parcel categories using DOD guidance (ESE, 1998). All parcels received a parcel designation for one of seven CERFA categories or a non-

PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORIES
FOR FORT McCLELLAN

Anniston Calhoun County Public Library
Reference Section
Anniston, Alabama 36201
Point of Contact: Ms. Sunny Addison
Telephone: (256) 237-8501
Fax: (256) 238-0474
Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Houston Cole Library
9th Floor
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road
Jacksonville, Alabama 36265
Point of Contact: Ms. Paula Barnett-Ellis (256) 782-5249
Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

CERCLA qualifier designation, as appropriate. Parcels 69Q, 70Q, 71Q, and 75Q were categorized as CERFA Category 1 Qualified parcels in the EBS. CERFA Category 1 Qualified parcels are areas that have no evidence of CERCLA-related hazardous substance or petroleum product storage, release, or disposal, but do have other environmental or safety concerns (ESE, 1998). Parcels 69Q, 70Q, 71Q, and 75Q were qualified because chemicals of potential concern (e.g., lead) may be present as a result of historical range activities. Parcels 221Q-X and 222Q-X also received an "X" designation for the potential presence of unexploded ordnance.

Parcel 176(7) was categorized as a CERFA Category 7 parcel in the EBS. Category 7 parcels are areas that have not been evaluated or that require additional evaluation to determine their environmental condition.

With the issuance of this Decision Document, Parcel 176(7) is re-categorized as a CERFA Category 3 parcel. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal and/or migration of CERCLA-related hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response (ESE, 1998).

REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION

A remedial investigation (RI) was conducted at the IMR Ranges to determine the nature and extent of contamination (Shaw Environmental, Inc. [Shaw], 2004). The RI consisted of the collection and analysis of 120 surface soil samples, 36 subsurface soil samples, 6 groundwater samples, and 9 surface water/sediment samples. Groundwater samples were collected from monitoring wells installed during the RI. An x-ray fluorescence survey was also performed for lead in surface soil within the range safety fans.

The RI indicated that soil at the IMR Ranges was contaminated with various metals, primarily lead, associated with small-arms ammunition. Based on the RI analytical data, the area of lead-contaminated soil at three of the ranges – Skeet Range, Range 12, and Range 13 – was projected to extend into the ALDOT EBC right-of-way. The total area of lead-contaminated soil within the

EBC at the three ranges was estimated to be 4 acres.

The former AST at Range 13, Parcel 176(7), was investigated separately in 2005 (Shaw, 2005). Four surface soil samples were collected in the vicinity of the former AST and analyzed for metals, volatile organic compounds, and semivolatile organic compounds. The analytical results indicated that historical operations at the AST did not adversely impact the environment.

SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Shaw conducted remedial activities to remove contaminated soil within the EBC at the IMR Ranges (Shaw, 2006). Soil contaminated with lead and other metals associated with small-arms ammunition was excavated within the EBC at Range 12. The remedial goal established for the project was the industrial cleanup level of 880 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) for lead in soil. The area of contaminated soil removed at Range 12 was approximately 0.6 acres. No excavation activities were required in the EBC areas of the Skeet Range or Range 13 because soil lead concentrations were less than the 880 mg/kg cleanup level based on additional sampling and analysis performed during the removal action. Other site activities included onsite treatment of contaminated soil to stabilize the metals, waste characterization, transportation of treated soil to a permitted offsite disposal facility, and post-excavation confirmation sampling.

Based on the results of the removal action performed at the IMR Ranges, including confirmatory sampling and analysis, lead-contaminated soil within the EBC was removed to levels below the industrial cleanup level.

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF LUCs

LUCs include any type of physical, legal, or administrative mechanism that restricts the use of or limits access to real property to prevent or reduce risks to human health and the environment. The objectives of the LUCs at the IMR Ranges are to ensure there is no residential use or development on the portions of the ranges that lie within the ALDOT EBC where soil lead levels exceed the residential use level.

DECLARATION

Based on the results of previous environmental investigations and remedial actions and given the future property use, further remedial action for CERCLA-related hazardous substances is unnecessary for the portions of the IMR Ranges that lie within the ALDOT EBC. The Army will place LUCs on the portions of the IMR Ranges that lie within the ALDOT EBC to protect human health and the environment and comply with relevant federal and state regulations. The property impacted by the IMR Ranges may be used solely for commercial or industrial activities but not for residential purposes.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Any questions or comments concerning this Decision Document or other documents in the administrative record can be directed to:

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ACRONYMS

ALDOT	Alabama Department of Transportation
AST	aboveground storage tank
BCT	BRAC Cleanup Team
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERFA	Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
EBC	Eastern Bypass Corridor
EBS	Environmental Baseline Survey
ESE	Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc.
FTMC	Fort McClellan
IMR	Iron Mountain Road
LUC	land use control
mg/kg	milligrams per kilogram
RI	remedial investigation
Shaw	Shaw Environmental, Inc.

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Date

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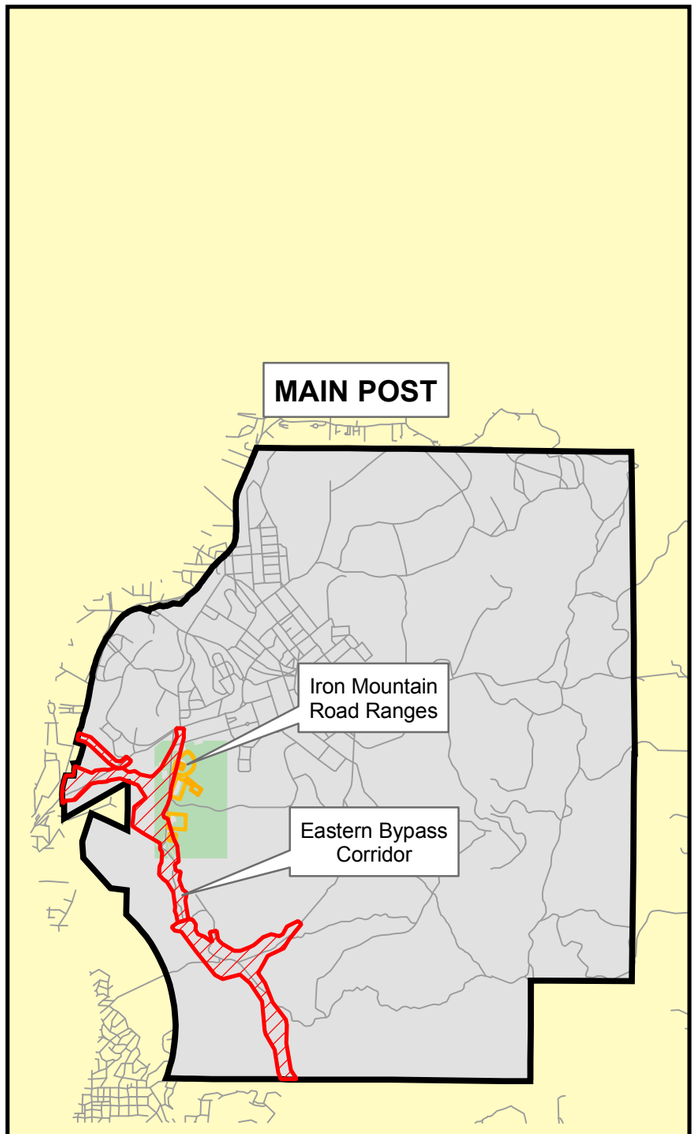
Thomas E. Lederle
Director, Base Realignment and Closure
Hampton Field Office

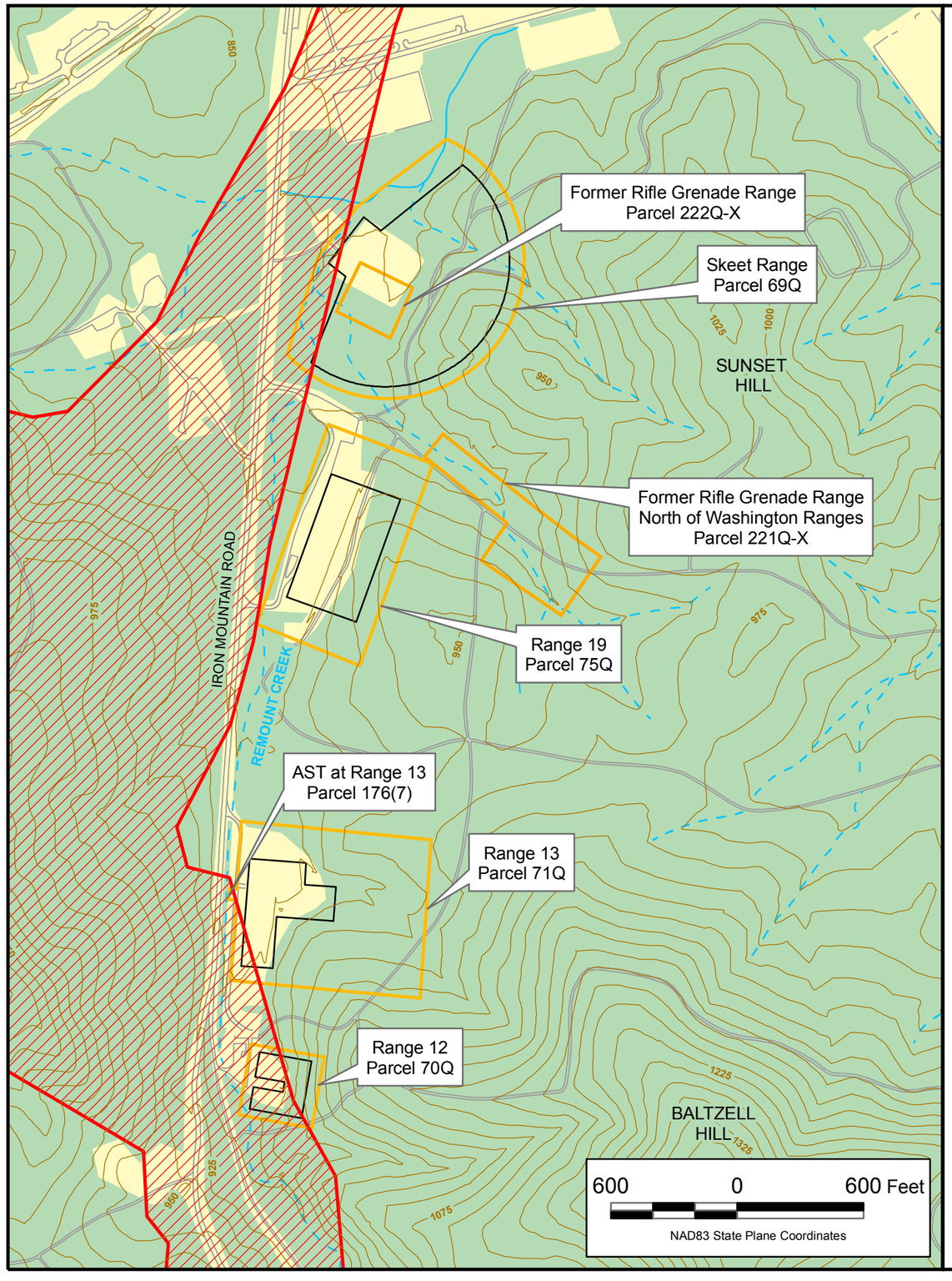
Date

Figure 1

Site Location Map

Portions of Iron Mountain Road Ranges on
ALDOT Eastern Bypass Corridor Property
Fort McClellan, Alabama





Legend

- Main Post Area
- Bypass Corridor
- Study Area
- Wooded
- Cleared
- Roads
- Surface Drainage Feature (Dashed where intermittent)
- Topographic Contour (25-foot interval)
- Parcel Boundary

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Shaw™ Shaw Environmental, Inc.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District

Contract No. DACA21-96-D-0018